

JIM BELTON Golf Coach

Jim Belton, 34, is in his first year as Centenary golf coach and if his teaching skills are equal to his playing ability, the Gents should be winners quickly.

Belton is in his second year as the club professional at Querbes Golf Course after three years at Huntington Park Golf Course. Those are Shreveport's two public courses.

He holds the course record at Huntington (Centenary's home course) with a 66 and has fired a 62 at Querbes.

A Gastonia, N.C., product, Belton had thoughts of playing the pro tour after a very successful amateur career. He played in the National Amateur twice, finishing 13th in 1968, and won numerous tournaments in the Carolinas and, after moving in 1970, the Ark-La-Tex.

As a junior player, he lost the North Carolina state tournament in a playoff and also finished second in a Carolinas tournament. He played one year at the University of North Carolina, rooming there with Ray Floyd.

RILEY WALLACE Athletic Director



Riley Wallace is in his first year as Centenary's Athletic Director and Head Basketball Coach. A 1964 Centenary graduate, this is his 10th year on the College's coaching staff. He's an avid golfer who claims an 11 handicap, although his friends say his handicap is his clubs. The 6-foot-5 red-head is one of Shreveport's most recognizable and popular sports personalities.

THE PHONE BOOK

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Centenary Golf 1977



Going Places!

"Our goal is to win
the national championship."
— Coach Jim Belton

CENTENARY COLLEGE 1977 SPRING SCHEDULE

- February 25—26 —
Lake Houston Intercollegiate Tournament
Lake Houston Country Club — Houston, Texas — 36 holes
- February 28—March 6 —
San Isidro—Bing Crosby Tournament
San Isidro Country Club — Guadalajara, Mexico — 104 holes
- March 11—12 —
27th annual Border Olympics Tournament
Casa Blanca Country Club — Laredo, Texas — 54 holes
- April 1—2 —
Louisiana Intercollegiate Tournament
Huntington Park Golf Course — Shreveport, La. — 36 holes
- April 7—8 —
Northeast Louisiana University Invitational Tournament
Chennault Park — Monroe, La. — 36 holes
- April 14—15 —
Louisiana Tech University Tournament
Pine Hills Country Club — Calhoun, La. — 54 holes
- April 28—29 —
Holiday-in-Dixie Festival Tournament
Huntington Park Golf Course — Shreveport, La. — 54 holes
- May 14—19 —
Mike McKenzie Intercollegiate Tournament
Six courses in Houston, Texas — 104 holes

CENTENARY and SHREVEPORT

Centenary is the smallest NCAA Division I member (enrollment 934). But the College has big-time ideas in athletics and education.

Centenary has a strong academic tradition, stressing the fact that smaller classes offer more individual attention.

In basketball, the Gents were ranked among the nation's Top Twenty by Associated Press during three straight seasons, finishing No. 19 in 1975-1976. And the team plays from coast to coast and beyond (five trips to Hawaii in the past nine seasons).

The golf schedule this spring sends the team into Mexico. And the future calls for nine tournaments each fall and nine each spring.

"We're going to compete in the best tournaments and play the best teams in the country," says Athletic Director Riley Wallace.

The Gent golfers have access to two public and five private courses in Greater Shreveport, the hub of the Ark-La-Tex region.

Each year Centenary hosts three golf tournaments — the Fall Classic, Intercollegiate and the Holiday-in-Dixie. And members of the Gents Club team with the Gents each fall and spring in a scrambles.

Shreveport, which has a metropolitan population of 348,000, hosted a PGA satellite tournament three years, a Ladies PGA tournament for six and is the site of many state amateur and junior events.

It's the home of the Louisiana State Fair each October, had a team in the World Football League and has a Class AA pro baseball club and is the site of the Independence Bowl football game. Bossier City, the sister city across the Red River, is home for Barksdale Air Force Base and Louisiana Downs, a \$26 million plant for thoroughbred racing.

GOING PLACES

Centenary College's goal in golf is a lofty one: Win the national championship.

That may sound a little far-fetched, but where there's life, there's hope. And where there's talent and determination . . . well, it may not be a dream.

Certainly, there's a total commitment on the part of the Centenary Athletic Department and the Gents Club boosters organization, which includes some of Greater Shreveport's most prominent citizens. And the atmosphere is a golf-minded community.

Building a national contender won't happen in one season. But the schedule has been dramatically improved. In the fall the Gent golfers played in the prestigious All-College Tournament at Oklahoma City and a pair of big events in Houston. And the spring schedule is highlighted by the week-long San Isidro-Bing Crosby tournament in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Senior John Montelepre and junior Jim Donner give the squad some experience. But the real jewels are three freshmen — Hal Sutton, Jimmy Odell and Larry Shannahan.

The future is built around that trio. "If we get a couple of strong players to go with them next year," says Coach Jim Belton, "we could be where we want to be."

Sutton is one of the South's best young players. Gent fans hope his story patterns that of 7-foot-1 All-American basketball center Robert Parish, who decided to stay at home in Shreveport and at Centenary after a big recruiting chase and helped give the Gents national prominence.

"Hal is a strong, solid player for his age," says Belton. "When he matures, he'll be that much better."

"Odell and Shannahan are physically strong with great potential," he adds. "Maturity and competition should carry them a long way."

Other members of the Gent Squad are sophomore transfer Joe Dawn and freshman Paul Sommerfeldt.

"What we lack right now is quality depth," says Belton. "Everyone has to play well to have a chance for some team honors this spring. We can't have any let-downs. We definitely have a chance for some individual honors."

THE PERFECT HOSTS

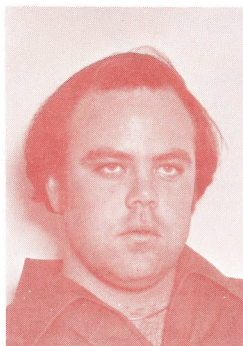
Centenary hosts three golf tournaments each year — the Centenary Fall Classic, the Louisiana Intercollegiate Tournament and the Holiday-in-Dixie Festival Tournament.

The Fall Classic will be renamed the Morton Braswell Invitational in honor of the man who gave his own time to coach the Gent golfers for a decade. It is an October event.

The Louisiana Intercollegiate is open to the members of the Louisiana Collegiate Golf Association. And the Holiday-in-Dixie brings in the best teams from the South with 38 invitations extended this spring.

All the tournaments are played at the 7,300-yard Huntington Park Course, a true test for ambitious golfers.

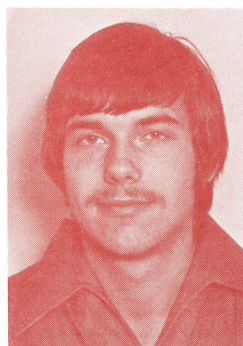
MEET THE GENTS



JOE DAWN

Joe Dawn, Soph., Gastonia, N.C., 5-11, 185, Born September 3, 1954 in Gastonia, North Carolina. Attended Hunter Huss High in Gastonia. Major: Health and Physical Education.

A transfer from Memphis State. "He has a lot of capabilities," says Belton, "if he disciplines himself to play." He was the USGA North Carolina junior medalist and runnerup for medalist in the USGA junior tournament at Dallas in 1972. He was the state high school champion three years and holds a course record of 62 at Crooked Creek in Henderson, North Carolina. Favorite pro golfer: Arnold Palmer.



JIM DONNER

Jim Donner, Jr., Edwardsville, Illinois, 6-3, 195, Born January 23, 1956 at Alton, Illinois. Attended Edwardsville, Illinois High. Major: Math.

Has earned two letters and finished second in the 1975 Bastrop Invitational. His best round is a 67. Lettered four years in high school. As a senior, he was third in the Illinois state championships, second in his district and on the All-Metro team. His team finished fourth in the state. He was an Illinois State Scholar and a member of Who's Who in America in high school.



JOHN MONTELEPRE

John Montelepre, Sr., Shreveport, La., 6-4, 195, Born May 31, 1954 in New Orleans. Attended Captain Shreve High in Shreveport. Major: Health and Physical Education.

A fourth-year player and the only senior on the squad. Won individual honors in a three-team event last fall. Low round of 66 (low of 69 in collegiate play). The Broadmoor Men's Club champ, he played on three regional and one state championship team and a state runnerup at Shreve. "He's a good shotmaker," says Belton. Favorite pro golfer: Tom Weiskopf.



PAUL SOMMERFELDT

Paul Sommerfeldt, Fr., Edwardsville, Illinois, 5-10, 170, Born November 13, 1958 at Highland, Illinois. Attended Edwardsville, Illinois High. Major: Business.

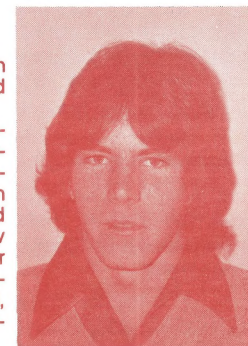
Lettered two years in high school and captained the team his senior year. Has a best round of 66. Earned a Presidential scholarship in high school. Favorite pro golfer: Ben Crenshaw.

MEET THE GENTS

JIMMY ODELL

Jimmy Odell, Fr., Shreveport, La., 6-2, 165, Born December 23, 1958 in Shreveport. Attended Byrd High in Shreveport. Major: Business.

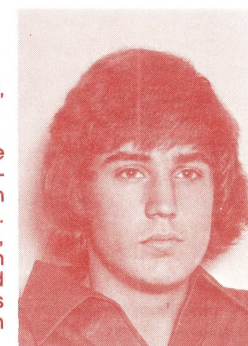
A three-year letterman at Byrd and a three-time participant in the state high school tournament. Medalist in the 1975 Southwood Tournament. He missed medalist honors by one shot in the Class AAAA regional tournament. Averaged 73 strokes per round last spring and had a low round of 71 last fall. Won a qualifying PGA junior tournament in Shreveport and played in the sectionals at Jackson, Miss. His father, Digger Odell, is the pro at Huntington Park Golf Course. Favorite pro golfer: Jack Nicklaus.



LARRY SHANNAHAN

Larry Shannahan, Fr., Belleville, Illinois, 6-3, 185, Born October 9, 1958 in Springfield, Missouri. Attended Belleville (Ill.) West High. Major: Math.

A three-year letterman in high school, he made first team All-Southwestern Conference and second team All-Metro. His team finished second in the state last spring. He qualified for the U. S. Junior Amateur Championship in Evergreen, Colorado, and was the medalist in his high school district golf tournament. His lowest round ever is 65. An honor student in high school, his father is a junior college basketball coach in Belleville. Favorite pro golfer: Jack Nicklaus.



HAL SUTTON

Hal Sutton, Fr., Shreveport, Louisiana, 6-1, 180, Born April 28, 1958 in Shreveport. Attended Northwood High in Shreveport. Major: Business.

Chose Centenary over many scholarship offers. Has an all-star list of honors. His titles include the 1974 Louisiana State Juniors, the '75 State Jaycees Tournament, the '75 city championship, the Lafayette High School Tournament in 1974 and 1975 and the '74 Southwood Tournament. He was second in the Southern Juniors at Pensacola, Florida in 1975 and the Class AAA state high school tournament in 1974 and 1975. He won the 17-year-old age group and finished fourth overall in the Junior All-American Tournament in Houston in '75, finished 12th in a field of 300 in the Junior World Tournament at San Diego, has been among the top 20 the last three years in the Orange Bowl Classic in Miami (including seventh place in '75) and also played in the Future Masters Tournament and the North-South Amateur. And he's played in the U.S. Open Qualifying Regional.

As a Gent, he had a low round of 69 last fall and lost a playoff for the championship of the Houston Freshman Tournament.

His high school honors include the Optimist Club Award and National Honor Society. Favorite pro golfer: Jack Nicklaus.

